



CHICAGO INFERNO—Firemen shoot stream of water over charred trolley into a blazing building, one of the seven destroyed or damaged after the trolley crashed into a truck-trailer loaded with gasoline in Chicago. The explosion and fire killed 33 persons and injured 50 others. Ten of the injured are near death.

Japanese Singer, Born in America, Yearns to Return

Tokyo — (U.P.)—An American girl of Japanese parentage has foregone a stage career here, which is the envy of thousands of Nipponese bobby soxers, to return to the United States.

Peggy Noriko Matsuda, born in Salt Lake City and the only Nisei girl ever to become a member of the famed Takarazuka girls' opera show, said she is planning a stage career in America.

"My present ability is too poor to appear immediately on the American stage but I am willing to work hard and I am going to begin at the beginning," Peggy said.

Peggy arrived in Japan eight years ago with her mother and sister, Rose, after her father, Tamesuke Matsuda, a merchant, died in Salt Lake City. After attending elementary and high schools in Ashiya, near Kobe, she enrolled in April, 1946, in the Takarazuka Girls' Opera school.

The opera school is unique. It trains its students to sing, dance and to act and puts on an operetta show. Its repertory includes Japanese and Shakespearean dramas and many others featuring "make believe" kingdoms almost always based on romance between a beautiful princess and a prince charming.

The male parts are portrayed by girls. The foreigner finds it difficult to understand but Japanese girl teenagers are almost fanatic in their admiration of the show's members.

Entrance requirements to the school are strict but Peggy made the grade and she made her debut in April, 1947, under the stage name of Midori Wakasa.

Power to Evans Creek, Wimer, To Be Cut; Phone Service Stated
Electric power service to the Evans Creek area above Rogue River, including the Wimer area, will be interrupted from 9 a. m. to 12 noon and from 1 to 4 p. m. Sunday, June 4, it was announced today by the California Oregon Power company.

The interruption will be for the purpose of changing power line wires to permit the construction of telephone lines into the Wimer area.

Wimer was served by telephones prior to 1919. But the heavy snow that year carried them out and they have never been restored. A total of 14 inches of snow was on the ground in Medford that winter, and the temperature dropped to four degrees below zero.

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.... AROUND HOLLYWOOD

By VIRGINIA MacPHERSON
United Press Correspondent

Hollywood, June 2 — (U.P.)—Looks like Hollywood's not kidding about cutting corners. Now they've got Red Skelton playing three roles in one movie.

"With one paycheck, yet. But we're taking it up with the guild next week," quips the irrepressible Red.

If you like Skelton—and there aren't very many who don't—you'll like "Watch the Birdie" three times as much. He plays himself, his pop, and his grandpa.

And at last reports, Red was so mad at those other two characters he wasn't speaking to either of 'em. Says they both got better lines than he has.

MGM's going along with the gag. They've got three dressing rooms fixed up on the set. If Red's playing pop he uses pop's; when he's grandpa he uses grandpa's. And when he's himself he goes into his own and locks the door—so "those other guys" can't snoop on how he's gonna play the next scene.

"I've got it all figured out," Skelton grins. "I'm gonna overplay pop and upstage grandpa so that bum in the middle can't steal a scene."

Switches Scripts
The script department produces three scripts every morning and Red laboriously switches over when he changes his make-up.

"I'm working on the casting

boys now," he says. "I want three dames, too."

Director Jack Donohue, Skelton's personal pal, drew the back-breaking job of handling three Skeltons.

"One was bad enough before," he groaned. "Now God alone knows what's gonna happen."

"I get up with dread every morning. It's taking 20 years off my life. The worst part is early in the morning just before we unchain him."

As far as Donohue can remember, this is the first time anybody ever played three different roles in one movie. It's also the first time any studio tried to split the screen three ways.

Old Stuff
Double screens are old stuff now, but in "Watch the Birdie" Red cuts up in the same scene with pop and grandpa. Grandpa even smokes a long, black cigar (which made Red sick) and it took all the studio's wizardry to keep the smoke from getting out of hand.

Donohue's biggest problem is shushing up the crew while Red's cavorting in front of the camera. They practically double up and bust their seams trying to keep from laughing out loud.

"Don't encourage him," Donohue yells. "He'll want to produce the next one!"

Nobody ever knows what Skelton's gonna do next. Donohue just sends him into a scene, mutters: "God help us all," and says: "If he manages to say it in English, write it down and we'll use it."

Red's even working on a surprise ending.

"I'm gonna play my own mother," he hollers. "With falsies!"

Nude Africans Use Pants for Church Services, Prayer

Cairo (U.P.)—A naked Negro stopped outside a Christian church, unwrapped a parcel, put on a pair of khaki shorts and entered to pray.

A while later he emerged, took off the shorts, and took his seven-foot frame, clad only in skin and muscle, towards the thick nearby forest.

The man was one of a tribe of giants, the Dinkas, inhabiting Southern Sudan. With the Shilluks and Nuwas, there are about 2,000,000 Negroes living in blissful ignorance in Southern Sudan.

A Franciscan missionary, recently returned from that area, described the missionary efforts, both Catholic and Protestant, in that jungle, animal-infested southern part of the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan.

Missionary work has converted thousands of these heathens to Christianity, he said, although there were still dense jungles where no preacher has yet been able to penetrate.

The Southern Sudan tribes include some remarkable physical specimens, with the Dinkas averaging a height of seven feet. Most of these tribal Negroes wander throughout their area naked.

The missionary added that many who attend church walk up to the place of worship naked, carrying their shorts under their arm. They slip them on, and once the service has ended, they take them off. The women attend with little but a few leaves dangling from their waists.

Dead line on Classified Ads: 5:30 p.m. for following day; 10 a.m. Monday for Monday; noon Saturday for Sunday a.m.

Atomic Tests Date Ancient Remains, Scientists Find

Chicago (U.P.)—Atomic research now is making it possible to place relics of ancient civilizations in their proper dates in history more accurately than ever before.

The University of Chicago Institute for Nuclear Studies will undertake ten major projects to date archeological finds from all over the world by analyzing samples of wood, charcoal or plant life remains for radioactive carbon 14.

The institute already has started studies of remains from ancient Mexico.

The radioactive carbon created when cosmic rays bombarded particles of nitrogen at high altitudes, originally was taken into the bodies of the organisms as carbon dioxide gas. When the organisms died, the radiocarbon began to decay.

Learn About Radiocarbon
Scientists have learned how long it takes for radiocarbon to break down and by finding out how much is left in plant and animal remains, they can learn the approximate time the organism lived.

The method will determine the age within two centuries. Previously archeologists could only guess at the age of ancient remains.

Scientists hope to learn more about the Tepepan Man, whose remains were found in a prehistoric lake bed in Mexico in 1947. Tepepan man is believed now to be at least 10,000 years old.

The scientists also will study the pre-Aztec Zapotec civilization and the pyramids of the sun and moon near Mexico City.

Dead line Sunday Classified is at Noon Saturdays.

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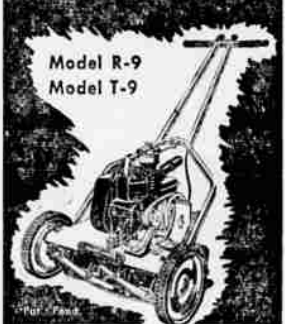
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